

Message Text

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64

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

NSCE-00 /065 W

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R 242331Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5554

INFO CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

UNCLAS CANBERRA 2551

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

DEPT PLEASE PASS WHITE HOUSE FROM AMBASSADOR GREEN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, AS

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN REACTION TO PRESIDENT FORD'S TULANE SPEECH

1. PRESIDENT FORD'S TULANE SPEECH RECEIVE PROMINENT PLAY IN AUSTRALIAN PRESS AND FAVORABLE COMMENT. IN EDITORIAL ON THIS, AUSTRALIA'S MEMORIAL (OR ANZAC) DAY, LEADING DAILY, THE AUSTRALIAN, STATES:

1. QTE...PRESIDENT FORD HAS GIVEN US, QUITE UNINTENTIONALLY, AN ANZAC DAY MESSAGE...MR. FORD APPEALED TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TO PUT THAT WAR BEHIND THEM AND TO CONCENTRATE INSTEAD ON A NEW EFFORT TO REGAIN THE SENSE OF PRIDE THAT EXISTED BEFORE IT. "I ASK TONIGHT THAT WE STOP REFIGHTING THE BATTLES AND RECRIMINATIONS OF THE PAST..." NOR FOR A MINUTE IS MR. FORD IMPUGNING THE VALOR OF THE AMERICAN SOLDIER. BUT IN A WAY HE IS SAYING THAT VIETNAM, ALBEIT ON AN INCREDIBLY GRANDER SCALE, WAS AMERICA'S GALLIPOLI. FROM OUR GALLIPOLI WE SALVAGED A SENSE OF POTENT INDEPENDENCE; A SENSE THAT WE HAD MEN
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CAPABLE AND WILLING TO DIE FOR THE RIGHT CAUSE. ONLY

BY SEEING OUR MEN DIE IN THE WRONG CIRCUMSTANCES
DID WE LEARN THAT THEY HAD THE GUTS TO DIE IN "RIGHT"
CIRCUMSTANCES...AND SO, ON THIS ANZAC DAY, WE AND OUR
AMERICAN FRIENDS HAVE SELDOM HAD SO MUCH IN COMMON... PRESIDENT FORD'S

MESSAGE TO HIS OWN PEOPLE IS AN INDIRECT MESSAGE
TO US. UNQTE.
GREEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975CANBER02551
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750145-0211
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750418/aaaaaqgm.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUL 2003 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <03 FEB 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AUSTRALIAN REACTION TO PRESIDENT FORD'S TULANE SPEECH
TAGS: SOPN, AS, US, (FORD, GERALD R)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006